

St. Louis Arsenal, Old Barracks
Second and Arsenal Streets
St. Louis
St. Louis City County
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1160 -A-

HABS
MO
92-SALU
23L-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. MO-1160-A

ST. LOUIS ARSENAL, OLD BARRACKS

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96-SALU

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Location: Second and Arsenal Streets, St. Louis, St. Louis City County, Missouri. (Demolished 1960)

Brief Statement of Significance: This is a large brick structure built in 1856. The building provided quarters for auxiliary troops stationed at the Arsenal in May and April of 1861, when attempts were made to capture arms and ammunition by Confederate sympathizers. Being close to the walls, cannon were mounted on the roof commanding the streets of St. Louis.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: The building was originally owned by the United States Army, which used it as a barracks. It was later owned by the United States Air Force, which used it as an aeronautical chart and information center.
2. Date of erection: 1856.
3. Original plans: In National Archives, Washington, D.C.
4. Notes on alterations and additions: Interior altered to form offices and cafeteria for the Aeronautical Chart and Information Center.
5. Important old views: Missouri Historical Society picture collection. Harper's Weekly, April 1861.
6. Source of information: J. Thomas Scharf, History of St. Louis and St. Louis County (Philadelphia: 1883), pages 534-536.

B. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated: Ordnance records, National Archives, Washington, D. C.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This is a large, two-story brick building with simplified Greek Revival detail.
2. Condition of fabric: Demolished 1960.

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B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: 60' x 105', three-and-a-half stories.
2. Foundations: Cut limestone.
3. Wall construction: Brick with side walls divided into seven bays by Doric arcades with brick arches and flat pilasters.
4. Openings:
 - a. Doors: Cast-iron with glass panes.
 - b. Windows: Cast-iron window frames. Round-headed windows on fourth floor.
5. Roof:
 - a. Shape: Gable.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Brick cornice at sides, parapet walls at the gable ends.

C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor plans: one large room per floor.
2. Stairways: Modern replacements.
3. Flooring: Linoleum over wood.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Brick exterior walls, exposed wood beams.
5. Doorways and doors: No interior doors or partitions.
6. Hardware: Modern.
7. Lighting: Fluorescent.

- D. Site: The building was on the grounds of the St. Louis Arsenal. The axis of the building ran east and west.

Prepared by Robert G. Stewart, Architect, for the
Landmarks Inc. Association of St. Louis
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